



Conservation Security Program 2005 USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service

News Release

For Immediate Release

March 2005

Contact: Sam Stewart (903) 455-6212

Conservation Security Program Public Meetings Scheduled for Upper Sabine Watershed

McKinney, Texas - The Upper Sabine Watershed, covering portions of Hunt, Collin, Rockwall, Van Zandt, Kaufman, and Fannin counties, was selected as one of the 202 watersheds nationwide to participate in the 2nd Conservation Security Program (CSP) signup. Signup for the CSP will occur in March 2005, pending publication of the final CSP rule in the Federal Register.

The CSP is a stewardship program providing payments to producers who maintain and enhance their natural resources. Depending on the amount of conservation now on the land, producers may be eligible for one of three tiered payments.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will administer the CSP. Only producers practicing the highest levels of conservation will be eligible to participate. A self-assessment must be completed by producers documenting their benchmark conservation level prior to visiting the NRCS office to apply for CSP. A series of public meetings will take place in the Upper Sabine Watershed to inform farmers about the eligibility requirements and application process. The public meeting schedules are as follows:

Commerce – March 10, 2005 at 6:30 PM

**Texas A&M University – Commerce Campus, Agricultural Sciences Bldg., 2nd Floor
Room AG/IT – 253, Commerce, Texas**

Royce City – March 24, 2005 at 9:30 AM

First Baptist Church, Fellowship Hall, 305 North Arch Street, Royce City, Texas

Grand Saline – March 29, 2005 at 10:00 AM

Grand Saline Civic Center, 201 East Pacific Street, Grand Saline, Texas

Point – March 30, 2005 at 1:30 PM (Headquarters Building)

Sabine River Authority Iron Bridge Division, 169 Rains County Rd. 1480, Point, Texas

Terrell – March 31, 2005 at 1:30 PM

Able Springs Water Supply Corp. Conference Room, 3100 FM 429, Terrell, Texas

The CSP is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to promote the conservation and improvement of soil, water, air, plant and animal life, energy, and other conservation on private working lands. Working lands include cropland, pastureland, rangeland, native pastureland, as well as timbered bottomland that are an incidental part of an agriculture operation.

For more information, please call Sam Stewart at (903) 455-6212, or visit the Upper Sabine Watershed CSP web site at www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp. To speak to personnel at your (Zone 5) local NRCS office, please call the following numbers:

Hunt County – (903) 455-6212

Rockwall County – (972) 552-5254

Fannin County – (903) 583-9513

Collin County – (972) 542-0081

Kaufman County – (972) 552-5254

Van Zandt County – (903) 567-6051

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